

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT	
SUBJECT	General Conditions in Ch'uanchou, Fukien	DATE DISTR.	13 January 1955 25X1
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
		REFERENCES	

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. [] the beginning of the armed action between the Chinese Communist forces and the Chinese Nationalist forces in the Amoy-Quemoy area, Ch'uanchou (N 24-54, E 118-34) has been under martial law. As a result, the Ch'uanchou Bureau of Public Safety has refused all requests from civilians to travel. Overseas Chinese in the Ch'uanchou area who requested permission to return to their overseas areas were screened very thoroughly before permission was granted for them to depart. If they were under any kind of suspicion, they were not allowed to leave. 25X1
2. [] a group of overseas Chinese were assembled at the Overseas Chinese Reception Hall in preparation for departure to their overseas destinations; they were being given a farewell party by the Ch'uanchou city mutual friendship association for returned overseas Chinese. At this party a junior official of the Communist Party delivered a speech in which he wished the departees luck and prosperity. He asked them to continue sincerely to support the motherland, and explained that only a powerful motherland could give them protection and improve the position of the overseas Chinese. In conclusion he requested that they publicize to the overseas Chinese abroad that many significant improvements had been made in the motherland; he also requested that they encourage the overseas Chinese to support their motherland. He threatened the assembled individuals with severe punishment if they propagated any adverse publicity about the Chinese People's Government (CPG). 25X1
3. Since the Amoy-Quemoy action began [] all of the fishermen and the fishing boats have been placed under the jurisdiction of the CPG Coastal Defense Corps (sic). The fishermen were not allowed to fish, and seafood became quite scarce in the Ch'uanchou area and then disappeared from the market. Although food had been scarce prior to this restriction, the populace had been able to supplement their daily diet with seafood. 25X1

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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4. All daily food items were controlled. Each person was allowed 30 catties of rice and four taels of cooking oil per month; however, [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] no allotment of cooking oil had been available.¹ Peanuts were not 25X1
available in the market. The official price for 100 catties of rice was
125,000 yuan. Textiles were scarce, and each resident was allowed to purchase
only 16 feet per year.
5. Drought conditions in Ch'uanchou were very serious during 1954, especially
in Huian (N 25-03, E 118-48), which had the worst drought on record. There
had been no rain in that area between July 1953 and October 1954. The 1954
harvest did not reach 40 percent (sic).

Comments

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1. Rations of cooking oil in rural communities were usually two tael per month per person, but available supplies seldom permitted the purchase of even that quantity.
2. These measurements were in Chinese feet, one Chinese foot being equal to 1.094 linear feet.

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